

1	5
2	6
3	7
4	8

TO: GACarver  
 FROM: DCI/SAVA

SECRET

25X1  
 RE: 11 Dec. 1969

BLE SECRETARIAT DISSEMINATION

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FLASH SAIGON

25X1

1. FOLLOWING (QUOTED IN ITS ENTIRETY) JUST RECEIVED FROM NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER (NMCC). THIS IS IDENTIFIED AS TELECON ITEM NO. 362169 FROM COMUSMACV, DTG 111212Z DEC 69 = "IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT VNAF HAS BEEN ORDERED TO A COMPLETE ALERT BECAUSE OF RUMORS OF A COUP. PERSONNEL ARE STAYING OVERNIGHT IN THEIR OFFICES. THE NATIONAL POLICE HAVE BEEN DOUBLED AROUND TO TAN SON NHUT."

2. WE PRESUME VNAF ALERT ALLEGED IN ABOVE QUOTED TELECON IS PART OF ALERT DESCRIBED PARA ONE REF. TO KEEP THINGS CALM AND IN PERSPECTIVE HERE, HOWEVER, YOUR FURTHER COMMENTS AND ~~XX~~ ANALYSIS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED. WE ARE CERTAIN TO BE ASKED MOMENTARILY WHY THE GVN IS SO JITTERY AND WHETHER THERE IS ANY FIRE BENEATH THIS SMOKE.

COORDINATING OFFICERS

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2	5
3	6
4	7
	8

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☐ INDEX

☐ NO INDEX

☐ RETURN TO

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PER

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SECRET

PAGE TWO

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3. FROM THIS END IT WOULD APPEAR THAT SYSTEM PROVIDING FOR MISSION-WIDE COORDINATION AND ANALYSIS OF COUP TYPE DEVELOPMENTS PRIOR TO HITTING WASHINGTON WARNING BUZZER HAS BROKEN DOWN TWICE IN ONE WEEK. AN INFORMAL, ILL SOURCED ("IT HAS BEEN REPORTED . . .") SCARE MESSAGE SUCH AS THE TELECON QUOTED ABOVE GENERATES MAXIMUM EDGINESS HERE. IF SITUATION IS REALLY SERIOUS TO POINT WHERE EVERYONE LEGITIMATELY JUMPY, PLEASE LET US KNOW. IF NOT, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO GET COORDINATED MISSION ASSESSMENTS PUTTING DEVELOPMENTS IN PROPORTION AND PERSPECTIVE RATHER THAN NERVOUS SKETCHY RUMORS FEEDING INTO WASHINGTON THROUGH VARIETY OF UNCOORDINATED CHANNELS.

END OF MESSAGE

\* In view of coup rumors some elements of Capital Military District have been put on 24 hour alert by General Minh as a routine precautionary effort.

C/VNO

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